Overs Discusses School's Plans

by Andrew Borowitz

Beginning his third year as principal of Shaker Heights High School, Dr. Fritz Overs has worked decisively to attack Shaker's problems. Last year, a new scheduling procedure was introduced to increase the student's ability to choose his own course of study. In the 1975-76 school year, there are more changes in school policy and procedure, which were fully discussed in a **Shakerite** interview with Dr. Overs.

Dr. Overs feels that "in-school absences" are still Shaker's biggest problem. He stressed that much of the vandalism and fighting that occurs during the school year happens at times when students should be in assigned classes or study halls. There is also a direct relationship between absences and instances of student failure. In order to attack this problem, a stricter attendance procedure has been instituted. Overs concluded that although student absence is a problem in most high schools across the country, Shaker can greatly reduce it by taking the proper measures.

There has been a minor change in Shaker's counseling staff this year. Mr. Burke has left the staff to teach Latin at Woodbury as well as the high school. The houses will operate with the remaining seven counselors. The number of students for each counselor will not increase, however, due to a marked decrease in student enrollment at Shaker. The only difference in the operation of this year's staff, says Overs, is that "we want to get more done" and "take a more active role in terms of communication" with students. To make entering Shaker easier for sophomores and other new students, the administration published a comprehensive guide to the high school, a booklet entitled, "A How-toBook for the New Shakerite." The booklet was designed and created by four members of the class of 1975 to tell new students about Shaker from the students' point of view. Overs expressed his hope that the addition of the booklet to the orientation day at the beginning of the school year will make the transition more comfortable for new Shaker students.

In improving communication with students, Dr. Overs hopes to create a new curriculum which will be responsive to the needs and desires of Shaker students. Dr. Overs pointed out that over the past few years there has been a trend towards greater enrollment in vocational programs and practical arts courses. Students are exploring different kinds of work while still in high school and often wait a few years before going to college in order to determine their career interests. Overs believes that it is the school's responsibility to expose the students to all possible career opportunities. "Some of the old ways of doing it are invalid," he said. "There used to be 'career days' when a lawyer would speak for five minutes and then a nurse would take his place." Dr. Overs wants to develop a program in which a student can see a member of the profession that interests him on the job, thus gaining a knowledge of the nature of the career field.

At this point, no plans have been made for any special voter orientation programs at Shaker. The High School will provide facilities for voter registration, but all voter education in preparation for the 1976 Ohio primary and national election will be done in American Government classes offered by Shaker's social studies department. Overs admitted that although no programs in voter orientation outside of the classroom have been announced, such programs might still be worthwhile.

When asked about the arena scheduling procedure instituted last year in which students chose their own scheduled classes from a computer's master schedule, Over's replied that the reaction he received from students and teachers was "great". Although problems occurred when classes began to fill up and students had to look for alternative classes, Dr. Overs stressed that the new system produced no more scheduling mishaps than the old one. "I feel very good about it," he said.

Dr. Overs continues to believe that Shaker's curriculum is "very good" and its staff is "top drawer". He maintains that the diversity of the people of Shaker Heights makes the high school a fascinating "microcosm" and "one of the most exciting places in the country to be." He wants Shaker to move towards a Bicentennial goal–the establishment of "citizenry" that is an important part of the American educational tradition–and thus further utilize the great assets of the Shaker community.

Dr. Overs discusses Shaker's future with Andrew Borowitz.

THE SHAKERITE

September 12, 1975 — Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, Ohio — 46th Year, No. 1

New Voter Registration Urged

With the Bicentennial in full swing and a presidential election only a year away, one cannot help being captivated by the political enthusiasm around him.

For many of us, 1975 will mark the year when for the first time we will be able to cast our vote on Nov. 4. It is a time to investigate the hows, whys, and wherefores of voter registration and voting in general.

One is qualified to vote if he is a citizen of the United States and will have reached eighteen years of age by Election Day and has been a resident of the state, county, and precinct in which he is voting for thirty days. One must register by Oct. 6 in order to vote if he has never registered, is a new resident of the county, or has not voted in at least one election in the last two years. Registration must be made in person, and can be done until Oct. 6 at Shaker Hts. City Hall, 3400 Lee Rd., weekdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration may also be made at other suburban city halls, all Cleveland Public libraries during their regular business hours, and at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, 2400 Payne Ave. in Cleveland. The Board of Elections is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., as well as on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. If you are a new voter and wish to register, it is important that you keep the Oct. 6 deadline in mind, as registration of new voters is not permitted during the thirty days prior to a general or primary election or during the ten days prior to a special election. Registration is resumed after the tenth day following either type of election.

The procedure involved in voter registration is simple and basic. Generally, no special document or information is required. One is asked to state, under oath, facts concerning citizenship, age, and residence. Registration does not affiliate you with any political party, nor will you be questioned about your preference for any political party.

Often various circumstances arise and one is confused as to whether or not it is necessary to re-register. Ohio's election laws set up a "semi-permanent" registration of voters. Once you have registered to vote, you need not register again unless you have done one of the following: 1) If you move to a different county which also requires registration of voters, 2) If you change your place of residence from one precinct to another within a county, you must report the change to the Board of Elections, 3) If you move after the beginning of the thirty-day period during which registration is closed, you will be permitted to vote from your previous residence. You must then notify the Board of Elections of your new address to remain eligible to vote. 4) If your registration has been cancelled by the Board of Elections, as it may be if you have not voted in any election for two successive years, you will have to re-register again to be eligible to vote. 5) If you have changed your name, you must report the change before you will be permitted to vote.

Voting is a privilege, but it is also a responsibility and an obligation of each citizen. If eligible, be sure you are registered to vote on Nov. 4.

Shaker Welcomes New Faculty

by Jim Freedman

The Shaker staff will include six new teachers this year, providing the school with a variety of talents and experience. The departments boasting new blood this year include Industrial Arts, Distributive Education, Business Education, and Drama and English.

Mr. Thomas Beckner is joining the English and Drama Departments, and as had much professional experience in the theatre. His most recent experience was as a director of productions of the Albequerque Summer Theatre.

Mrs. Ann Staunton and Mrs. Marilyn Glavic will be teaching Business Education. Mrs. Staunton was graduated from the West Virginia Institute of Technology, and previously taught four and a half years in Sheffield Lake. She is interested in skiing, biking and traveling, and her husband will be teaching this year at Woodbury. Mrs. Glavic graduated from Bowling Green and received her Master's Degree from Kent State. She taught in Newbury and Aurora before coming to Shaker to teach in the Adult Education Department. In 1968 she resigned to have a child, and up to now has worked as a substitute.

Mr. Joseph Kocian and Mr. Raymond Kotmel are both teaching Industrial Arts this year. Mr. Kocian just graduated from Kent State, with a minor in Library Science. He is married, and has served in the armed forces in Thailand and Viet Nam. While in the service, he was a journalist for his division paper. His outside interests include skiing, archery, fencing, photography and fishing. Mr. Kotmel graduated from Kent State, where he is currently doing graduate work. He is interested in photography and journalism, and may assist in coaching football and track.

Mr. Allen Laymon will be joining the Distributive Education staff. Born and raised in West Virginia, Mr. Laymon was an airman first class in the service, and graduated from Kent State. He and his wife Carol have come to Shaker from Akron. They are interested in bowling, golf and fishing.

These six men and women bring with them fresh talents, and are awaiting the chance to share their talents with those students who have the desire to learn more about their specialized fields.

Debate Team Seeks Success

Unknown to the vast majority of Shaker Heights students, a once powerful organization that during recent years has been considered moribund has, slowly but surely, been restored to its former grandeur. A lethal, talented group of bloodthirsty students has been assembled by a bearded social studies teacher and an instructor of ancient langages (the languages are making a comeback too). This society of dedicated students has been moulded into a forensic team. For the past couple of years, the Shaker High Debate Team has made tremendous strides toward being reacclaimed the premier team in the state of Ohio. Shaker Heights was seeded sixty out of twenty-five competing teams in its district and acquitted itself quite well last year.

There is strong reason to believe that this is the year for the team. Four seasoned veterans will comprise the varsity team, and competition will be stiff for debaters in all four levels (novice, mixed experienced, junior varsity and varsity). Returning with one year of experience as members of the varsity team are Stephanie Berry, Martin Krongold and Mark Shargel as well as Fred Nelson, who for the past two years has been a member of the varsity squad. Last year the team of Shargell and Nelson (debating the negative) was victorious in its last twelve debates, recording a 3-0 record in the district finals. Also returning to challenge for a varsity spot are veterans Jim Campbell, Dave Leeper, Chris Berry and Dave Hoffman, among others.

Often overlooked in a forensic team is the non-debating segment. Not so at Shaker. Aside from his tremendous responsibilities with the debate team, Dr. Henry Strater has coached champions of extemporaneous speaking conststs and dramatic interpretation events. Preparing to compete again in these individual events are Laura Ross, Claudia Nelson, Dave Hoffman and various other dramatically inclined competitors.

Those of you possessed of analytical minds and gilded tongues are sincerely welcomed to contact Dr. Strater, Fred Nelson or Mark Shargel to receive information about becoming a member of the once again prestigious forensic team. We look forward to your involvement. You can be a part of the Great Shaker Domination!

Emiko Hagashi from Japan, and Benedict Foex, from Switzerland, Shaker's AFS students, appear pleased at the prospect of spending a year at Shaker High School. Next issue will include a story on their backgrounds and interests.

Involvement Needed To Save Freedom

by Abigail Genuth

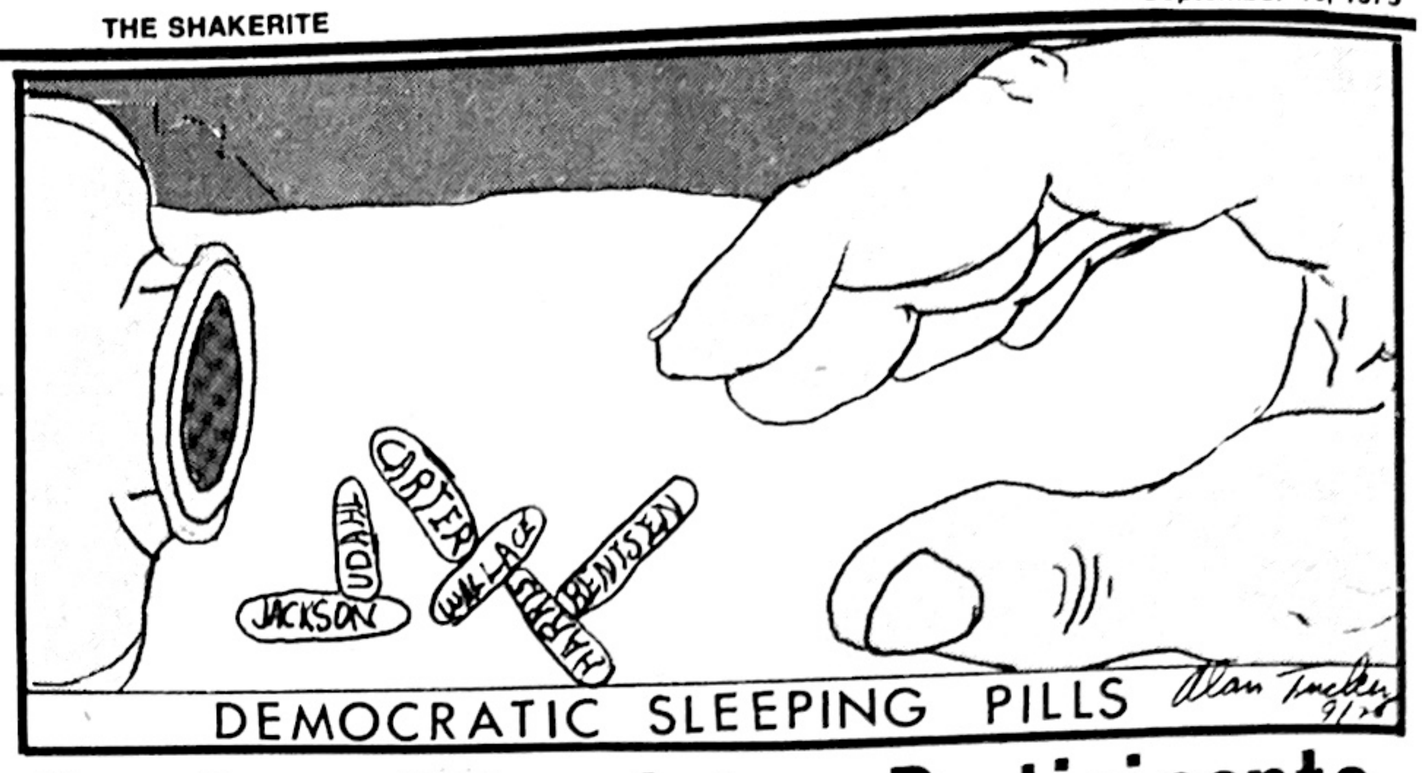
In recognition of the United State's Bicentennial, students should become more involved in government affairs. In order for this country to remain a democracy, its citizens must take action to aid it or its supervision will be left to a select few instead of the whole population. There are many ways of becoming involved such as voting, letter-writing, picketing, and petitioning. All of these take effort, for one must be well informed to participate in them.

Although it is not possible for everyone to vote on all city, state, and national matters, everyone (eighteen and over) can elect his representative in the councils that decide these matters. To select the person who will best represent the majority's opinion, one must take the time to learn about the candidate's attitudes. Voting not only on people, but also on issues, greatly effects each community. It enables the citizens to make decisions directly on coummunity affairs.

Writing a letter to a government official is often a good way of using him or her as a representative of your ideas and opinions. That letter, however, will have more force if it has more people behind it; therefore petitions are often used. Because it is backed by many people, a petition gives a government official a better idea of majority feelings.

Picketing is perhaps the most effective method of expressing opinions to the government. It creates more of a stir and is more widely publicized. It is also more personal than letter-writing or voting as it involves people directly encountering each other. To picket in Shaker, one must obtain a permit from the mayor.

The only way to engage successfully in these activities is to be well informed. Knowledge, understanding, and facts are required to reach intelligent conclusions from which decisions are made. Facts are easily obtained by reading the newspaper, listening to news reports on radio or television, and asking questions. Celebrating America's bicentennial by becoming concerned and involved will have a greater lasting effect than a fireworks display on Independence Day. When students begin to take over government posts in a few years, they will find more of what they wish it to be only if they are involved now.



Seminar Stimulates Participants

by Jeff London

(NOTE: I REALIZE MANY STUDENTS AND ADULTS ARE OFTEN TURNED OFF BY LONG EDITORIALS BUT I STRONGLY URGE EVERYONE TO PLEASE READ THIS EDITORIAL AND UPON COMPLETION OF IT, BECOME INVOLVED. THANK YOU! J.L.)

One's high school years are often marked by turmoil and pressure from both parents and peers. It therefore becomes difficult and sometimes impossible to truly hold meaningful discussions and debates concerning topics pertinent to our society and survival, for one becomes so entangled in the inanities of grades that the need to attain high marks overrides all other considerations. Seldom during these years is a student able to participate in relevant talks with leaders from both our community and surrounding areas. Perhaps some may argue that it is more essential to acquire information via a classroom environment with one teacher, supposedly knowledgable in his or her field, lecturing on specific topics; however, I feel it provides a much greater learning experience for the student to hold conversations and perhaps even debates with leaders from all walks of life: business, industry, labor, education, religion, the media, and government. Unfortunately few high school students ever participate in such an education. During this past summer, three Shaker Heights High School students, - Steven Milman, Randy Shorr, and myself, - were privileged and honored to engage in such a stimulating learning experience.

In 1970, The University for Young Americans (TUFYA), a non-profit educational organization, was founded to provide students with the opportunity to exchange ideas and information with individuals from various careers and backgrounds. TUFYA seeks high school students from public, parochial, and independent schools in Ohio and involves them in specially designed seminar-dialogues. Each seminar combines informal discussions with larger question and response sessions.

The academic excellence of this program evolves from the ability of students and responsible resource people to exchange ideas and information and to present differing views or aspects of each topic. Funding for the program comes from corporate grants, community organizations, and individual contributions. During the school year TUFYA offers a comprehensive series of Saturday seminars and special symposiums covering a broad range of topics and issues of regional or national significance. These seminars are approved by the Ohio Association of Secondary School Principals and schools are invited from all areas of Ohio to send students to each seminar. However, the highlight of the TUFYA program comes each year with the summer residential institutes held at Ohio Colleges. Each institute lasts one week and students are introduced to a new topic each day.

Throughout my high school years, I have been challenged and stimulated by the numerous courses offered at Shaker. Having talked to students from all sectors of the state, I realize that Shaker offers a wide variety of courses unknown to many schools in the state; however, never have I been as intrigued with the workings of our society as I was by attending the summer session at Baldwin-Wallace College. For five days I was privileged to debate and converse with individuals from all sections of our nation. By actually talking to these people, walking down the streets with them, and eating with them, I was able to gain an insight into such topics as U.S. Foreign Policy and the News Media and its credibility that would have been impossible to attain in a classroom situation.

The format utilized by TUFYA was beneficial to both the panelists, and the students, for it neither exhausted the students by continual discussions nor did it become tedious. Each day's seminar began with an opening statement from the panelists on a question issued to them as they arrived. Following these initial comments, the panelists went to one of five groups consisting of about five students and two counselors each, and on a rotating basis held forty-five minute question and answer sessions with these individual groups. The benefits of this method of debate allowed the student to feel a one-to-one relationship with the panelist, while the panelist did not become overwhelmed by myriad questions being thrown at him from all directions. After the first three small group discussions and the final two discussions, the panelists and students gathered together for thirty minute large group discussions where students questioned the panelists further, often asking one to comment on a quotation of another.

From 3:30 to 6:30 each day, the students were given free time to either privately prepare for the following day's seminar or exchange viewpoints with other participants, ranging from such topics as the debates to curfew regulations in small towns to pig farming in Homerville, Ohio. From 7:00 to 10:00 each night a prep session was held to discuss the next day's topic and become better acquainted with the panelists so as to be able to question them in a more intelligent manner.

However, the true excellence of this program can only be observed by those individuals actually participating in the seminars, for it was the counselors, supervised by John Mulroy and Florence Vipond, who made this program into such a successful experience. These counselors, either college students or recent college graduates, supervised the prep sessions in addition to aiding the students gain a greater understanding of the seminar topics. To say that the counselors who participated in this summer's programs were well read and helpful to the students would be a gross understatement. Their patience, expertise and desire to aid each student individually were among my fondest memories of the seminar. Many of the counselors hope to teach after their college education and if this summer institute is any indication of the type of teachers that colleges are producing, schools throughout the nation will be receiving a very high grade of new teachers. Anything else I mention about these people would be redundant; let it suffice to say that one must be present at the summer institute to fully appreciate their merit.

TUFYA has been one of the finest and most rewarding of my high school experiences. The knowledge I gained and the friends I met will always remain close to me. The prep sessions and discussions enabled me to gain a greater understanding of the world in which we live. The memories of this summer will always remain the fondest of my education in the Shaker School System. If any students, teachers, or members of our community have any questions regarding TUFYA please feel free to contact me c-o The Shakerite Office, Room 100; Shaker Heights High School, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120. By the way, there did exist one small deficiency in the summer program - the food was absolutely terrible.

Kent Proceedings Prompt Analysis

by Debby Seidman

May 4, 1970 will long be remembered as a tragic day at Kent State University. Although the turbulent, protest-filled sixties had chronologically ended, students at KSU and across the country gathered in protest over President Nixon's announcement that Cambodia was being attacked by American troops. At Kent, however, what began as just one of many student protests against an illegal, amoral war, resulted in the death of four students; and continues five years later as a complex, nightmarish, sometimes tearful civil case. A federal jury may have handed down their decision, but the last word is yet to be heard on the Kent shootings.

The verdict that cleared Gov. Rhodes, Brig. Gen. Canterbury, and other officials and National Guardsmen of liability in the shootings will be appealed. Some accountability for the terror of that day is still searched for. A group of students exercising their constitutional right to assembly should not have to fear for their lives. If simultaneous demonstrations occurred at colleges across the nation without casualty, certainly something went wrong at Kent.

Regardless, though, of whether the plaintiffs are awarded the 46 million dollars they are suing for, the real question concerning the shootings still looms in the air. What if, in five years (when many Shaker students may find themselves on some college campus) another controversial issue poses itself? Will the future students-ourselves maybe-have to think twice before utilizing their right to free speech? Certainly the students of the seventies have been relatively quiet. Not only the lives of 13 dead and wounded students are the plaintiffs in this trial, but the future voices of today's college and high school students.

Perhaps, as the jury has found, the blame can't be placed on state officials; perhaps the parents of the slain and the wounded students will never get what they believe is their justice. Even so, the Kent State nightmare will not die in the hearts and minds of many Americans.

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Man Behind the Mouth: Muhammad Ali

by Steve Milman

He has repeatedly told us that he is the greatest. He has said that he is so mean that he makes medicine sick. He is the master of the rope-a-dope, a Black Muslim by religion, a millionaire many times over, and a favorite of talk show hosts and the American public. Most certainly he is the Heavyweight Champion of the World in his sport, a fact which no one can now dispute. So the question that one must ask about Muhammad Ali does not concern his public image as ringmaster and champion but who really is this person who floats like a butterfly and stings like a bee?

If a story is to be written about Muhammad Ali a proper place to begin is with the Muslim religion because of which young Cassius Clay became Ali. In 1967 when Ali refused to be inducted into the armed forces ("I ain't got nothing against those Viet Congs") he did so based on the Muslim ideals of non-violence. This objection is a valid one. But Ali is also breaking the non-violent creed of the Nation of Islam each time he steps into the ring because all quarreling is against Muslim rules. Therefore, Ali's present standing in the faith is a shaky one where he will not assume full "standing" as a Muslim minister until he gives up boxing. In any case he says "The championship strengthens my reputation as a prophet," which is probably true.

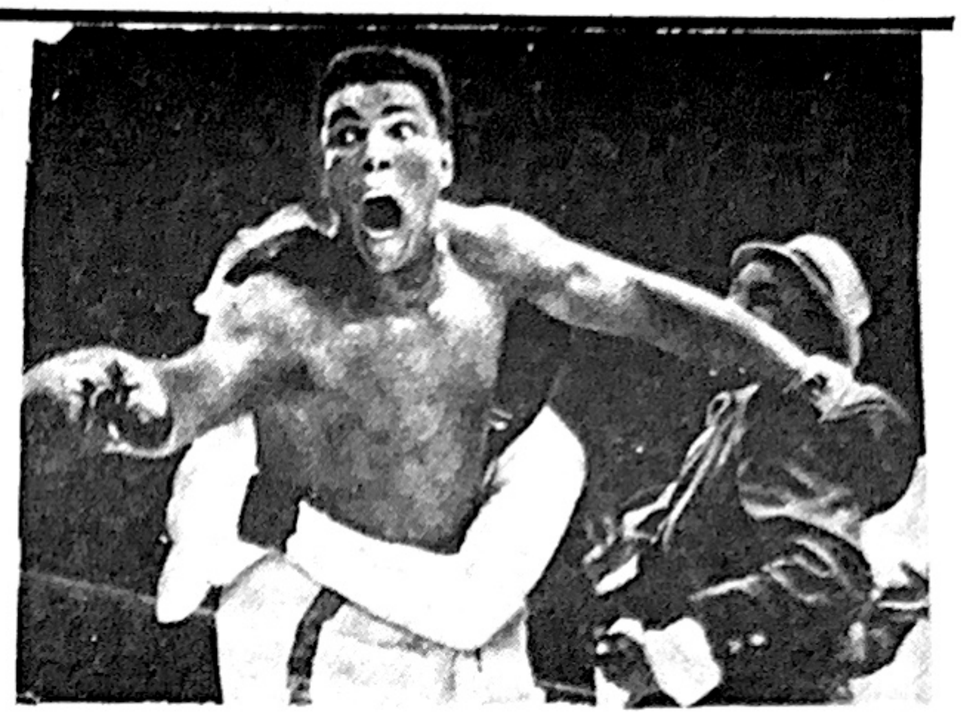
Ali is involved in helping the underprivileged black people through his career and from now on he will devote any and all profits of his profession to that cause. Recently he has undertaken a project in his home town of Louisville to construct a Black Community Center and Muslim temple for his brothers. Already Ali has contributed one million dollars to this cause. The champ also has a favorite tale about the ways in which his fame aids others. One time when he had nothing special to do, Ali decided to take his Rolls-Royce on a ride through Harlem. While driving he saw two men fighting with each other using broken bottles as weapons. Ali went over to them screaming "I am the GREATEST, the meanest, and the baddest man that ever lived. If you want to fight someone, fight me". The fighters were so astonished to see the Champ that they forgot the quarrel and mobbed Ali. The police later arrived and thanked Ali for the help.

There are few things which Ali fears but one situation that does bother him is plane travel. When a pilot goes into his common talk, "We are flying at 5,000 feet and will hit some choppy air currents. Please fasten your seat belt," Ali gets the shivers. The idea of death does not bother the Champ so much as the time he would have to wait and ponder hitting the ground. For a long time Ali traveled in a specially modeled Greyhound bus before it became too time-consuming.

Ali's favorite hobby, which his boxing success has made affordable, is his automobiles. The number and make of the cars varies but as near as can be gathered he presently owns a Volkswagon, a jeep, a Chevy van, a Ford Falcon, a Mercedes 300, and two Rolls-Royces. In the luxury automobiles Ali commonly hires white chauffeurs and shares the driving responsibilities with them. When gas station attendants recognize the Champ he points to his chauffeurs and says that they are his "white bosses". Ali also has Citizen's Band radios installed in his cars. His code name is the Big Bopper.

Any look at Muhammad Ali must contain some taste of his family life. The Champ loves children and has two girls of his own. Ali will kid you that his wife never worries while he fights since she always knows he will win. This statement may be partially true but Muhammad has said that if his wife (or mother) over demanded that he retire, he would. Ali will add that his family cares enough about him that they never would make that request.

Many of us know the statistics and accomplishments of Muhammad Ali as the Champion of the World and possibly the greatest boxer of all time. We admire him and laugh at his rhymes and poems. However, Ali must also be respected as a man of high principles and a very real person. It is Muhammad Ali's complete and interesting life that makes him "the greatest".



Ringmaster Muhammad Ali strikes a typical pose.

European Bicycle Trip Excites Shaker Student

by Melinda Fine

This summer I spent six weeks bicycling through Europe. I travelled with a small, organized group of ten people sponsored by American Youth Hostels. We cycled and trained through four European countries, France, Italy, Austria, and Germany, living simply and staying at inexpensive hostels along the way. The trip was an unforgettable experience for me; not only did I get to see the cities and countrysides of Europe, but I got to see them from a different angle than most people do.

On the whole the bicycling was not too strenuous. When we cycled we averaged about fifty miles a day, but we seldom biked for more than a week straight. We spent a good deal of our time in cities (Paris, Florence, Rome, Venice, Vienna, Munich), and it was obviously impossible to cycle when there.

Each member of the group had a good, light-weight, touring ten-speed bicycle. I have a Raleigh Supercourse. I carried all my belongings for six weeks in two eighteen pound saddlebags. It is essential to pack as light as possible when touring, and one is therefore very limited as to what one may bring. I carried little more than two pairs of shorts, two T-shirts, one pair of jeans and a sweatshirt. All group food and group utensils were carried alternately by each member, and strapped down on top of our packs. We'd usually bike alone or with one or two friends. We'd take about a half hour to an hour out for lunch and lived on cheese, apples, chocolate bars, and pastries.

The bulk of our riding was done in France and Austria. After starting off the trip in Paris for five days we cycled for one week throughout the Loire valley. The scenery was amazingly beautiful and the terrain completely flat. It was by far the most enjoyable, relaxing cycling I've ever done. We pedaled through miles of farm lands and quaint stone houses and massive chateaux without feeling a thing. This was soon to be rectified once we got to Austria, where we spent a week and a half cycling through the Bavarian Alps. We started in Salzburg and stayed in small Alpine towns, eventually making our way through southern Germany and up to Munich. To be out in the open cycling past spectacular mountains and amazingly aqua-blue rivers was one of the most exciting experiences of my life. Though the biking here was at times very demanding, it was also rewarding and well worth it.

The whole feeling of bicycling in Europe was very different than it is over here. In the United States drivers are usually paranoid of cyclists and try their best to avoid them; in Europe we were caught in the middle of huge traffic jams and we seemed to be the only frightened cyclers around. In Italy, for example, the traffic was so dangerous that we ended up taking trains between Florence, Rome, and Venice, and did no cycling at all. Of course it is still not that common to see bicycle tourers, and we were often "ooohed" and ahhed" at, and encouraged by many people in the smaller towns. One place where we often did meet other bikers was at the hostels.

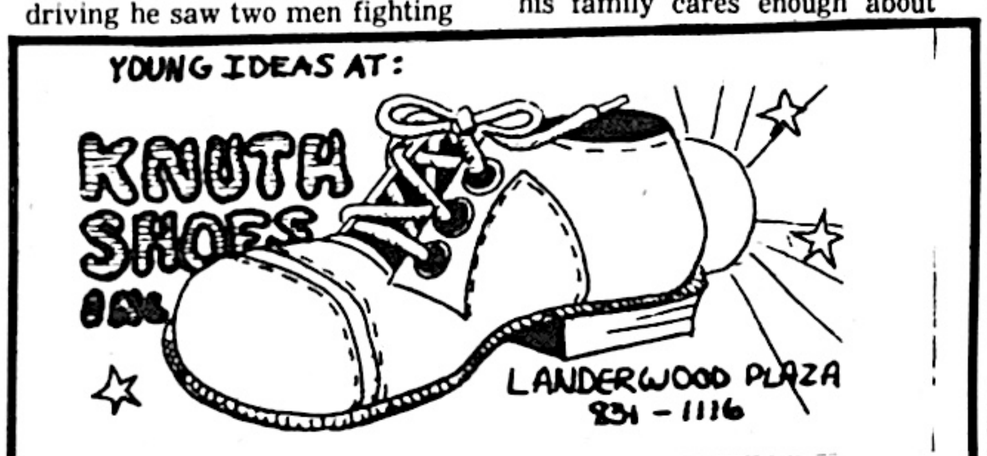
Hostels are very inexpensive places for youths to stay, usually ranging from fifty cents to two dollars a night. They're unlike hotels in that they have rules and regulations that the occupants must follow. For example, European hostels usually open from seven to nine o'clock in the morning and are then closed for the rest of the day. They don't open again until four in the afternoon, at which time you must check in and present a youth hostels membership card. There is a strict curfew (usually around 11 p.m.).

I noticed many significant differences between the hostels of Europe and the hostels in the U.S. or Canada. American hostels seemed to be smaller and more individually run. In the States each hostel is run by a "house parent" on a semi-personal level. The majority of hostels in Euorpe this summer were run by a network of people and the whole personal touch was lost. Likewise American and Canadian hostels provide cooking facilities for the students. In six weeks we only came across three hostels that had such facilities. On the other hand, all of our European hostels provided both a continental breakfast and a dinner. The breakfast never varied: for six weeks straight we had two rolls, butter and jam, and coffee, tea, or cocoa. The dinners, however, shifted according to what country we were in. We had spaghetti every night when in Italy, and goulash and sauerkraut in Austria and Germany.

Not only did the hostels change from country to country, but I found that they greatly varied from the cities to the countryside, too. City hostels were usually modern, clean and well-equipped, like huge dormitories. They have later curfews and are more lax in general than hostels in the country. As a contrast we stayed in many primitive mountain huts in the Alps, sleeping on lofts, using only ice-cold water, doing chores, etc. The Alpine hostels were terrific; the people were much warmer and we were able to meet and communicate with other Europeans close in age. Though there are many drawbacks to hosteling, I find it a very valuable experience because you do meet and interact with so many other people. Mixing with European students in this way gave us a chance to get to know a people from a completely different standpoint than we could have on the streets.

Unfortunately, as American students travelling abroad we were not well received by the Europeans. We found most of the people whom we dealt with in restaurants, stores, and museums resentful and contemptuous of us for three reasons: we were American, we were students, and we were tourists. In Paris, people came up to us and said, "Yankees, go home!" There are also many differences in our cultures that alienated us from them. On the whole we felt much more relaxed morally than they. My friend and I were reprimanded for wearing shorts in Paris on an eighty-five degree day, when we would never have thought twice about such a thing here. In a small Austrian town, a man came up to a boy on my trip and told him he'd lose friends if he didn't put his shirt on. The man said, "We are a conservative people - unlike you."

The summer was a unique experience because I was able to absorb both the cultural richness of the cities and the spectacular landscapes of the countrysides. The museums of Paris, bicycling through the Alps, Viennese pastries and Italian ice cream, Strauss concerts, and mountain hostels all contributed to making a fantastic summer, and one that I will long remember.



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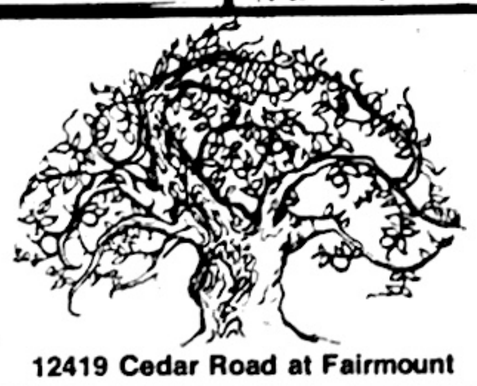

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CENTERFOLD BY
PERRY NIHONAN

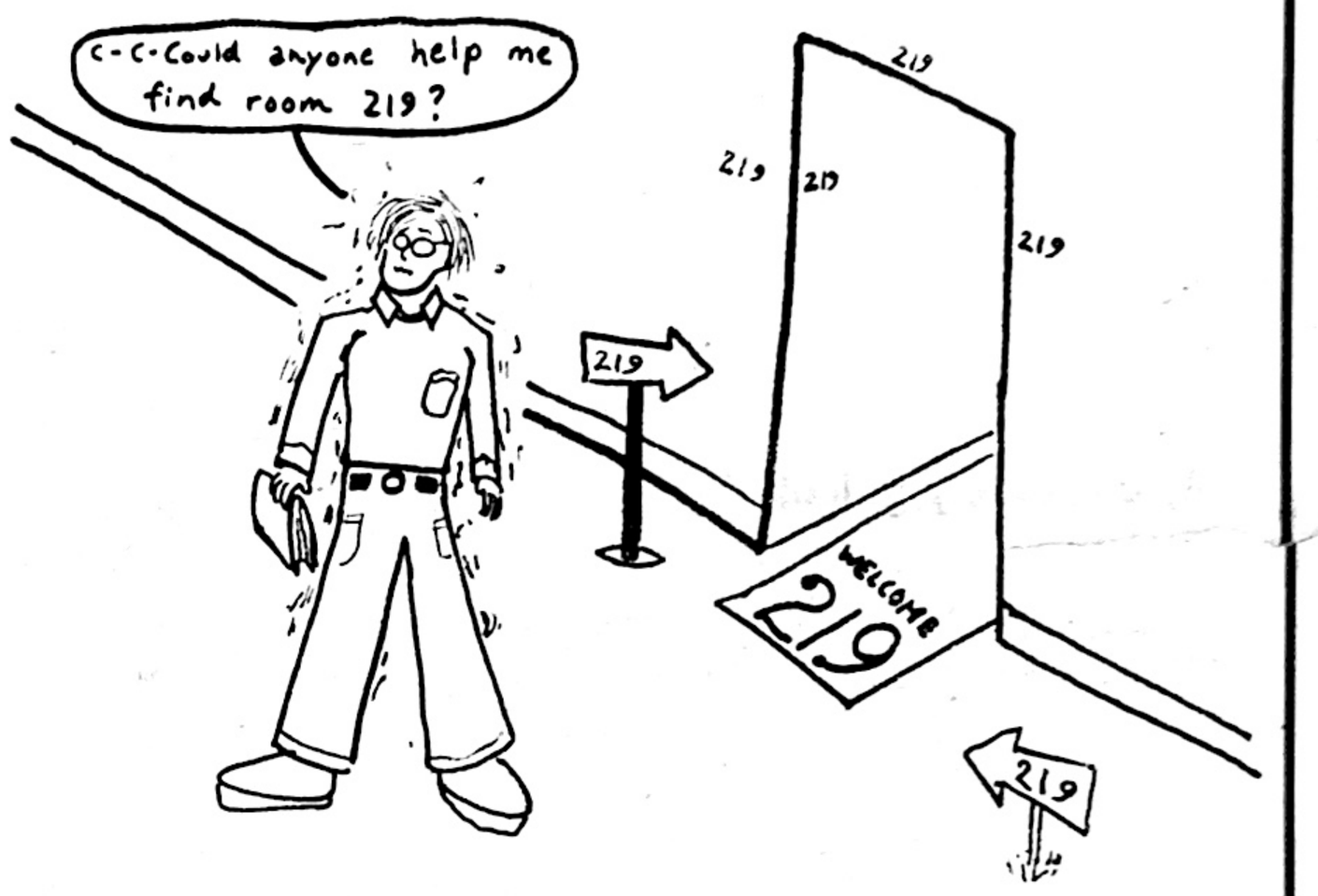
ATTENTION, UPPERCLASSMEN!

LET'S PLAY "SPOT THE SOPHOMORE!"

LOOK FOR THESE TELL-TALE SIGNS OF SOPHOMORIC PERSONALITIES:

1) Blank, confused, lost look on face:

Frequently, the sophomore can be seen with an armful of books and a worried expression. The sophomore carries his books to class because he is unaware that "forgetting" one's books is an ideal method of escaping class! The worried expression is due to the fear of being "beaten up", being late to class, or being locked out of the gym by Willie.

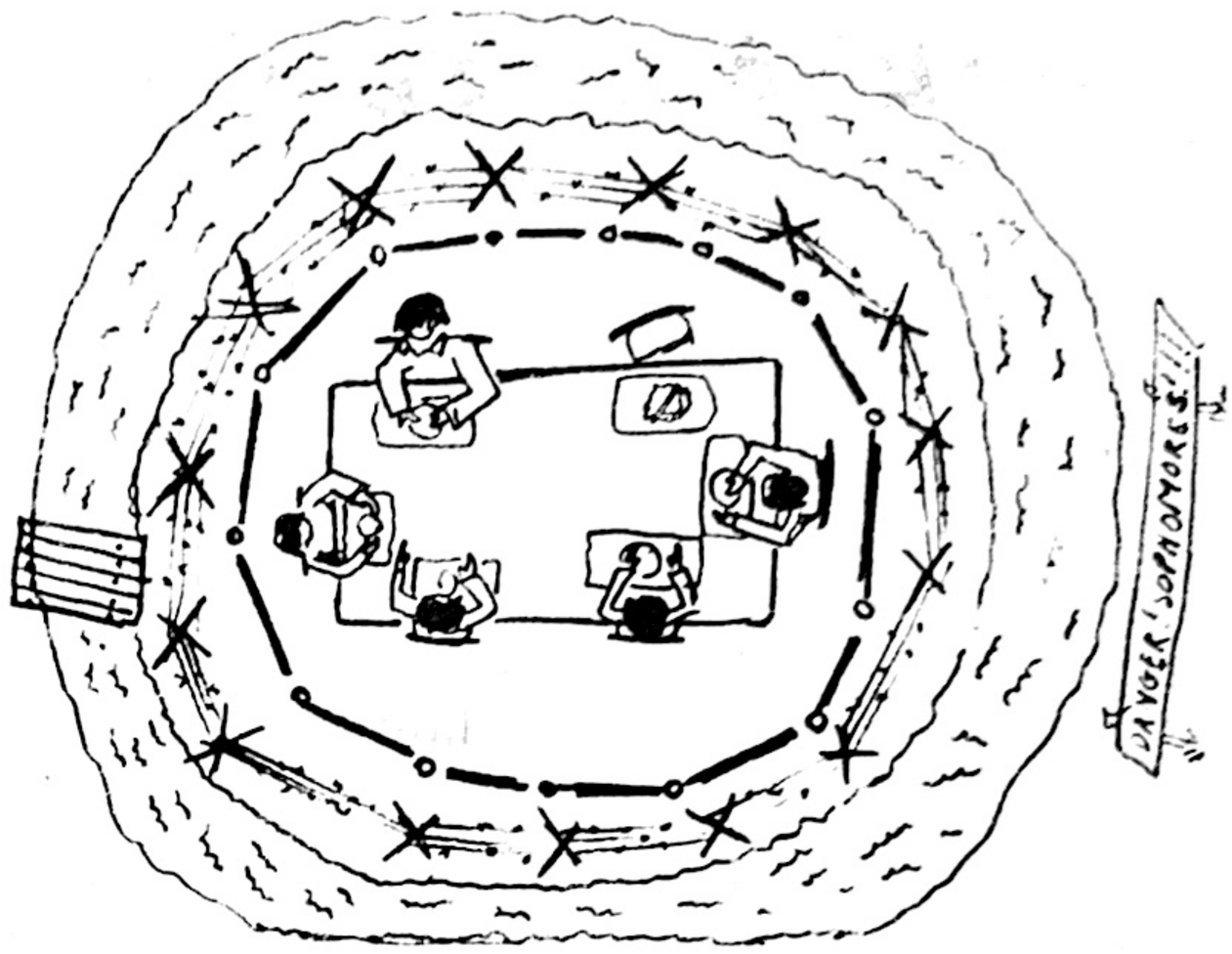


2) Obsession with taking A.P. courses:

The sophomore usually intends to take as many A.P. courses as are offered. He soon realizes that he is better off choosing more lenient courses. Juniors usually return to the A.P. program when they realize that they want to go to college.

3) Occupation of a certain, small area of the cafeteria:

The sophomore often feels the need to be among his peers. In fact, sophomores have been known to barricade themselves in the corner and eat their lunches surrounded by a moat of mashed potatoes and gravy.



4) Extremely gullible:

Sophomores, inexplicably, are gullible. They have been known to buy elevator keys, library insurance, and other non-existent articles. Little by little, however, they learn to trust none.

I don't understand it! I spent $8.50 on elevator keys from those nice seniors and none of them fit!
What a sucker.
I don't believe it!

sophomores----

Don't despair! You may be greatly angered by what you have seen on these pages -- that is normal and expected. But just wait until next year when you'll be a Junior, and you'll be making these comments about Sophomores! You will see that it's a lot of fun. I was a Sophomore once, and now, thanks to modern psychiatry, I can look back on those days without much pain. If this centerfold has caused you great pain, or if you can't afford a psychiatrist, then please contact me. I accept full responsibility for any damages done.

John Smith
New York City

Altman's "Nashville" A Sparkling Movie

by Debbie Alfred

Nashville, produced and directed by Robert Altman, is truly a masterpiece. This remarkable film is a panorama of contemporary America, primarily about people and secondarily about a place. Altman and Joan Tewkesbury, who wrote the script for **Nashville**, use the country-and-western music scene as a central metaphor for American life. In the movie, an out-of-towner explains this choice when he remarks of the people of Nashville, "These are the people who elect the president." The metaphor is also superb because of the deep tradition that Nashville and its country music represent.

There is no firm plot in this two-and-one-half-hour film, and thus, Altman successfully explores an incredibly wide range of characters and themes. **Nashville** consists of a series of related incidents that amplify each other. There are, however, two major events that continue throughout the film and involve all twenty-four of the principal characters. They are the homecoming of Barbara Jean, who is a rising country-and-western star with many emotional problems and the preparation for a rally for Hal Phillip Walker, a mysterious presidential candidate. The film spins from one person to another, showing relationships that end and some that begin again, relationships that change greatly, and some that stay the same. The threads of the story are closely entwined, but not at all confusing. Perhaps this is because Altman always goes into the motives, dreams, and secret desires of his people, and thus creates a unique interest in each character and his situation.

Nashville is colorful, funny, and extremely entertaining, while at the same time it is a quite penetrating examination of a part of American life. To portray America realistically, it must also be tragic and paradoxical, which it is. Thus, **Nashville**, in addition to all of its already mentioned qualities, is an extremely satiric film. Almost nothing is left untouched. A television announcer babbles on and on, reporting every trivial, boring, and obvious detail of Barbara Jean's homecoming. Hal Phillip Walker's sound truck continually blares out this unlikely candidate's platform, which consists of the country's most insubstantial dreams. Walker wants to abolish the electoral college and prohibit all lawyers from becoming involved in Government, "especially Congress." His appeal is mostly emotional, like that of the country music. Altman is still being satirical when a small freeway accident instantly becomes a thirty-five-car wreck. This in turn causes a tremendous traffic jam, in which Hal Phillip Walker's sound truck enjoys a sizable audience and his campaign workers circulate Hal Phillip Walker bumper stickers, buttons, and pamphlets. At the same time, the motorists seek out the country singing stars in their cars for autographs. It is in this pile-up that Opal, an egocentric commentator from the BBC who is in town to do a documentary on Nashville, utters a remark typical of the usual platitudes that escape from her mouth. Looking around at the traffic jam, watching the people buying ice cream and getting autographs, feeling the heat and hearing the inescapable Walker sound truck, Opal becomes quite impatient with the long wait, and emotionally declares, "It's America!" She says this to Lily Tomlin, who is sitting next to her in the car, and who, incidentally, makes her movie debut in this film with an outstanding performance.

The accompanying country music is always present throughout **Nashville**, although it doesn't seem forced upon the audience. Instead, it unifies the film. The one tune that is heard most often during the film is Keith Carradine's **It Don't Worry Me**, which Altman uses as a chorus of apathy, sung by the most indifferent characters. This song is delivered in full force at the end of the film, when the crowd at the political rally for Hal Phillip Walker sings it after a madman shoots at Barbara Jean, the country-and-western star. Although another singer shouts from the stage "This isn't Dallas, it's Nashville," it is really both, and Altman intends it to be even more. In this film, it is all of America.

Henry Gibson, a country music star in the movie Nashville, waves to fans.

Yearbook Seminar Found Helpful

During the summer, Hunter Publishing Company, the publishers of Shaker's award-winning yearbook, the Gristmill, conducted their 5th annual seminar for yearbook staff members and advisors in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Shaker's two assistant editors for this year's 1975-76 Gristmill, Linda Hansell and Janet Young, attended the seminar.

The seminar consisted of 45 courses presented by publishing company representatives, yearbook advisers, and college yearbook editors, headed by such luminaries in the journalistic field as Robert N. Essman, art director for **People** magazine, and Rick Wood, contributing photographer for **Sports Illustrated** and the **New York Times**. The courses offered represented an impressive range of subject matters, including cover design, graphic effects, sports photography and creative copy. One of the more popular courses was entitled "How to Distinguish a Snickle Basher from a Grabber Flapper, or Exploring New Ways to say the Same Old Thing," which was conducted by Mike McKelley, the Gristmill's representative from Hunter Publishing Company.

A supplement to the seminar was the tour of the plant which involved an explication of the processes in the construction of a yearbook. At the end of the tour the participants looked through piles of yearbooks from high schools and colleges throughout the country.

Linda and Janet project that the most valuable aspect of this experience will be the transference of techniques learned to the production of the upcoming edition of the Gristmill, and are confident that the 1975-76 Gristmill will be a highly creative and improved edition. In accordance with the editors' plans to change and improve the Gristmill, they extend an invitation to all students and faculty members to submit suggestions to the Gristmill staff.

Steely Dan's Worth Attention

by Randy Shorr

Steely Dan is undoubtedly this country's foremost contribution to the "quality rock" music scene of the seventies. In fact, Steeley Dan is one of this country's only contributions to that cherished but diminishing category of music. Yet, surprisingly, the Dan still hasn't attained the recognition it deserves. The major reason why Steely Dan hasn't caught on as fast as it should have is that its music, as I said before, is "quality rock", which can be roughly defined as rock music that involves intricate arrangements and complex harmonies that are recorded on multi-track equipment with a high degree of precision. "Quality rock" is not only harder to produce than hard rock or acid rock, but it is also harder to listen to. Most people would rather listen to the insipid sludge produced by groups like Deep Purple or Led Zeppelin than listen to the intricate and exacting music produced by Yes, Emerson, Lake, and Palmer or Steely Dan.

Katy Lied, the Dan's fourth and latest album, released earlier this year, follows the definition of "quality rock" to the letter. Recorded on special 24 track equipment, **Katy Lied** is a monument to precision. All songs are written by Dan members Donald Fagen and Walter Becker. While the album's ten cuts represent a wide variety of musical styles, they all exhibit beautiful instrumental and vocal arrangements that, thanks to the quality of the recording, are clear enough so that one can readily see the genius that went into the making of **Katy Lied**. There are so many special moments on this album, such as the many one-bar guitar licks and a certain well executed alto sax solo, that one may listen to it many times and hear something new each time. There are astoundingly well developed harmonies in just about every cut which provide a powerful way to deliver the often esoteric but always ear pleasing lyrics.

Steely Dan has had several hits off their previous three albums, including "Do It Again", "Reelin' In The Years", and "Rikki Don't Lose That Number". As we are approaching our Bicentennial anniversary, I would like to recommend **Katy Lied** to the Yes and Emerson, Lake and Palmer fans, in order to patronize American "quality rock." I would also like to make one last-ditch effort by suggesting that Deep Purple and Led Zeppelin fans get out of their sludge and inject some quality into their musical diets. They will probably find it quite nourishing!

Shakerite Interviews New Drama Head

by Leonard Sax

For those who have had doubts concerning the fate of the Drama Department at Shaker, Shaker has come up with a solution. Mr. Beckner, the new Drama Department director replacing the retired Mr. Barner, appears ambitious and interested, creating a movement to revive drama at Shaker. A moderately tall fellow, Mr. Beckner at age 28 has had considerable acting and directing experience at Ohio State University, where he taught acting, and in Hollywood, where he participated in 4 films.

The Shakerite held an interview with him shortly before school started in which Mr. Beckner revealed a few of his many exciting ideas for the coming year.

Character and attitude: "I think you're going to see a big directional switch here. We've got a lot of people not involved, and I think we've got a responsibility to reach these people and get these people involved.

"Most of the people involved in theater are usually involved in a lot of other activities as well and it's tough to take six weeks out of somebody's time, it's asking a lot from them. I expect a lot more people this year, so I don't expect to have the same people for every show. The new enthusiasm will catch.

Plays to be produced:

"I'd like to try to build one more show in each year, bringing the total number of shows done a year to four. But I don't know now how funds and things will hold up. I would also kind of like us to perform a series of one-acts, maybe student-directed."

Publicity: "A play before an empty house doesn't help the actor much. I think it's just as important for actors to get experience in front of full houses. You've got to keep your audience in mind. Now that's not to say that you do nothing but fluff, or nothing but musicals, but you've got to remember that people come to the theater to see shows.

Comments: "I will insist that everybody, sophomore or senior, have equal opportunity in trying out for a show. There will be no pre-casting, no play readings before the play is cast.

Mr. Beckner will also be teaching three Sophomore English courses and team-teaching the Drama course with Miss Ellen Kronheim.

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Booters Work Out For "Big" Season

by Jeff Nudelman

The Shaker Heights soccer team under coach Baird Wiehe is looking forward to a very productive year. Mr. Wiehe had a very good blend of returning lettermen along with some new underclassmen. The returning lettermen helped last year's team compile an impressive 8-5 record.

The team's strength should be in the front line. Leading the front line is senior co-captain Les Kaciban. Kaciban has a very good chance of breaking the school scoring record. Also up with Kaciban are juniors Peter Friedman, Jon Straffon and Jim Faulkner. Senior Lee Fromson and sophomore Chris Camaran are fighting for the left-wing position, while senior Len Nichols and Sophomore Chris Fejes fight for the starting job at the right-wing position. The offense has always been a strong point for Shaker soccer teams and should be no problem again this year.

At halfback, Mr. Wiehe ran into some trouble. Last year's team graduated four midfield players. Mr. Wiehe feels that halfbacks make or break a team, and therefore he immediately moved last year's right-wing Neil Gandel and last year's sophomore sensation Bob Bartlett to wing-halfback. Mr. Wiehe is also very pleased with the play of junior Bob Farmer and senior Rich Nathanson. These two should make more than ample replacements for Bartlett and Gandel. At center-halfback, the most important position, is returning letterman Keith Leonard.

The defense is led by Leonard and senior co-captain Tom Cohen, who both play the center. Both are returning from last year and should provide much-needed experience up the middle. Flanking them are senior co-captain Jeff Nudelman and junior Alan Clark. Backing them up are seniors Jon Gram, Perry Newman and Alan Tucker.

At goalie are three seniors, Gordie Orloff, John Stickley and Ray Farmer. Farmer, last year's varsity goalie, is recovering from a serious knee injury and will not be able to play for some time. Stickley is doing a fine job and has a very strong leg. Orloff will back up Stickley.

The team's first scrimmage was against the Shaker alumni. It rained constantly throughout the game. The booters tried to pass, but found it very difficult to do so with much accuracy in the puddle-ridden field. Shaker finally scored when an alumni pass went astray, and Kaciban immediately booted the ball between the posts. The alumni then tallied to score two goals before the first half ended. Despite being behind 2-1 at the half, the score could have been worse had it not been for the excellent play of Cohen, Leonard and Clark, who constantly held off the alumni attack.

In the second half the offense came alive. Gandel and Bartlett played very well, keeping the play on the offensive side of the field. Shaker scored on a beautiful play as Friedman assisted Fromson. The alumni kept the pressure on, however. All-American Sherman Lyle and Danny Ostrum kept pounding the nets. The alumni scored three in the second half and won the game 5-2.

David Schwartz hands off to Ernie Emory in rigorous summer training.

Netters Hope for Title

The Shaker Heights tennis team has a great deal to look forward to this year. They will have six players who were starters on last year's team returning. Last year's fall team only lost one LEL match and won the LEL tournament. They finished second in the LEL to Cleveland Heights, however. This year, H eights is again their main worry, although Berea and Midpark, the two new schools in the LEL, are basically question marks.

Robbie Edelstein will be Shaker's first singles player. He was the second best singles player in the league last year and should be the best this year. He may very well be the best player in the area. Edelstein seemed like a shoo-in for the state tennis tournament in the spring of last year, but he lost to John Beck of Fairview. This year there is no Beck, and Edelstein should make the states this spring.

Seniors Dave Vernon and Bruce McAllister should be fighting it out for the second and third singles spots. McAllister seems to have the advantage, but Vernon has been working hard and should give McAllister a run for the second singles spot. Last spring Vernon was first doubles and advanced to the state tourney. McAllister was third singles last spring, and he was eliminated early in the tourney.

Juniors Jim Kaufman, David Blumberg, Jon Polster, and one other player will most likely make up the doubles teams. As second doubles last spring, Blumberg and Polster went to the state, while Kaufman was teamed with Vernon in first doubles. Kaufman, Blumberg and Polster could easily be in the race still for second and third singles although Vernon and McAllister hold the upper edge. The fight for the fourth spot in doubles competition is still up for grabs.

With six returning lettermen from last year's outstanding team and a great deal of talent fighting for the seventh spot on the team, coach Ned Martin may have a problem not very many Coaches havetoo much talent. Too much talent, however, is much better than not enough talent, and things look very bright for the Shaker tennis team this fall; who knows, maybe even a state championship in the spring.

Harriers Are Optimistic About Fall Meets

by Geoff Mearns

The Shaker Cross Country team is anxiously awaiting the upcoming season after two weeks of rigorous preparation. The season opens with a dual meet against Maple Heights, one of the strongest powers in Northeast Ohio. It closes in November at the State Meet, if all goes as planned.

The varsity seven, as it stands at this time, includes co-captains Bruce Higley and Bill Black, returning lettermen Danny and Paul Abrahms, Geoff Mearns, and Steve Bryne, and the newly recruited Perry Johnson. Attempting to gain one of these men's spots will be promising sophomores Chip Todd and Bob Murphy. This group of nine will be the most solid that Shaker has seen in a cross country squad in quite a while.

The team was meeting once a week during the summer to discuss training. The summer program for most consisted of large doses of LSD (Long Slow Distance) and even up to a total of 80 miles a week.

Coach Rice summed up all the hopes and anxieties of the Harriers when he said, "This could be our year!"

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Gridders Lack Size

by John Haskell

Shaker's football Raiders, coached by Al Raymond, are hoping to equal last year's excellent 7-3 mark. They will remain tough on defense, but the offense, minus several of last year's graduating stars, probably will not be as potent.

Shaker's 1975 starting offensive backfield will have senior Dave Schwartz at quarterback, with Ernie Emory and Derek Watkins (both seniors) at the running back spots. In '74 Emory ran for 112 yards in 12 carries against Brush. He is the Raider's most dangerous threat on offense this year. It is likely that seniors Davey Bell and Maurice Brantley will see action as well. The backfield is very fast and Schwartz has a good arm but the offense will be handicapped by the lack of a fullback-type runner. Schwartz' receivers will be seniors Pete Lewis, Matt Selekman, Robert Johnson and junior Earl Souter. Souter and Lewis are the probable starters.

The offensive line lacks exceptional size too, but there is good talent there. Returning from last year's varsity are awesome senior "Big Bill" Vitek, seniors Kurt Hess, Jim Richardson, Brad Schultz, and Ian Grayson. Dave Campbell is a first-year lineman with a shot at playing time. Juniors Andy Brown and Doug Hyams will man the center spot with Brown the likely starter. Thor Wallace, Pete Walton, and Greg Walker are other juniors who will be playing on the line.

In Shaker's 12-2 scrimmage win over Cathedral Latin, the Raider defense looked extremely tough. Shaker's defensive line will be manned by offensive players. These include Souter and Lewis at the ends, Hess at middle guard, and Vitek and Grayson at the tackles, with Wallace playing tackle or end. The defensive line remains a strong point this year.

The linebacking should be quite adequately handled by juniors Jeff Harper and Ken McCall and senior Greg Claytor. Junior Mike Heller should see action as well. With three of the teams linebackers juniors this position will remain strong through 1976.

The defensive backfield is no problem either with senior standouts Schwartz and Emory as well as juniors John Shoos, Jeff Lounds, and Brian Williams playing. Shoos will also back up at quarterback and Schwartz will handle the punting duties.

Again, the team looks especially solid on defense. Any problems will come from lack of size on offense and too many players playing both offense and defense. Nonetheless a second straight winning season seems a good bet. The Raiders open the regular season with three non-league home games. The first is against Chanel at 4:00 P.M. September 5, with games against West Geauga and Cleveland Central Catholic the following weeks. The first league game will be versus Garfield at Garfield the fourth week of the season.

Ken "the Duck" McCall (66) flaps into dummy as interested coach looks on.

PREDICTS

The Sports Editorial Board is back after last year's fine .718 winning percentage. This year the SEB will attempt to improve on last year's record, hard as it may be to do. Here are its predictions for the upcoming professional football season.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division: 1. Saint Louis Cardinals; 2. Washington Redskins; 3. Dallas Cowboys; 4. Philadelphia Eagles; and 5. New York Giants.

Central Division: 1. Minnesota Vikings; 2. Chicago Bears; 3. Green Bay Packers; and 4. Detroit Lions.

Western Division: 1. Los Angeles Rams; 2. San Francisco 49 ers; 3. New Orleans Saints; and 4. Atlanta Falcons.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Divsion: 1. Buffalo Bills; 2. New England Patriots; 3. Miami Dolphins; 4. New York Jets; and 5. Baltimore Colts.

Central Division: 1. Pittsburgh Steelers; 2. Houston Oilers; 3. Cincinnati Bengals; and (sorry, fans) 4. Cleveland Browns.

Western Division: 1. Oakland Raiders; 2. Denver Broncos; 3. Kansas City Chiefs and 4. San Diego Chargers.

And in case you want some early-season betting favorites, it will be Los Angeles and Oakland in the Super Bowl.

Haskell's View

by Tom Haskell

With one of the most successful Shaker fall sports seasons ever last year, even greater accomplishments from the cross-country, football, golf, soccer and tennis teams are expected this year. While most of the credit in each sport is usually given to the players, I think that the coaches for each sport have an equal if not greater bearing on the team's success. I feel, therefore, that space should be taken in this column to credit the fall sports' coaches for their success last year and, I hope, this year. The head coaches will be mentioned first.

Cross-country-Bob Rice-Although his team was the only fall team to have a less than .500 record, lack of talent was probably the biggest reason for its poor record, not the coaching of Mr. Rice. With numerous good young runners this year, Mr. Rice should be able to show his real coaching ability.

Varsity Football-Al Raymond, Ed Tekieli, Ed Zednik-These three taskmasters whipped last year's team into such good shape that many players could play both on offense and defense and still help the gridders to a 7-2 record. They will have to get this year's team into great shape also because still more players than last year will have to go both ways. This year is a real challenge for the coaching staff, and knowing the three men, I feel that they will be able to beat the challenge.

J.V. Football-Fred Heinlen, Emil Knorr-Although J.V. is usually thought of as a preparation for the varsity, and winning is not necessary, Mr. Heinlen and Mr. Knorr stressed winning enough to bring an undefeated league record to the J.V. squad last year.

Golf-Gar Aikens-Although Mr. Aikens did not help the golf team achieve a 7-2 record (tops in the LEL) by instructing them on how to play the game, he did help them to get "up" for a match mentally, and without him, I am sure the golf team would not have won the LEL.

Varsity Soccer-Baird Wiehe-With an excellent 8-5 record last year, Mr. Wiehe, one of the most respected soccer coaches in the area, always seems to come up with good teams. This year should be no exception.

J.V. Soccer-Bill Newby-As in J.V. football, Mr. Newby seems to combine preparation for varisty and winning very well. If it was not for the work of Mr. Newby, Mr. Wiehe would have a tougher time keeping a winning tradition.

Tennis-Ned Martin-Although some people have criticized Mr. Martin over the last few years, he must be doing something right, for the tennis team always has a very good record. Last fall the netters came in second place in the LEL. This year could be a championship year for Mr. Martin.

Along with these ten fine coaches, Jerry Masteller, the athletic director of Shaker, should be mentioned. Without Mr. Masteller, no sports at all would take place.

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